

Michael F. Easley  
Governor



State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor

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**GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES SMALL BUSINESS GRANT PROGRAMS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**  
***One North Carolina Small Business Program Provides Funds For Innovative Entrepreneurs***

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley announced today that the state Board of Science and Technology has started accepting applications for One North Carolina Small Business Program funds for fiscal year 2008-09. The program provides grants to small businesses that are conducting innovative research and developing technology to bring new products to the marketplace.

“These grants provide our research-based small businesses with new opportunities to succeed in bringing their innovative technologies to market,” Easley said. “This is the kind of support for growing firms that helps make sure everyone in North Carolina can compete and win in today’s competitive global economy.”

To be eligible for either of the One North Carolina Small Business grant programs, the Incentives Fund or the Matching Fund, companies must participate in the federal government’s Small Business Innovative Research or Small Business Technology Transfer programs.

The Incentives Fund reimburses qualified companies for up to 50 percent of their costs to prepare and submit Phase I proposals for the federal programs. The state grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis with a maximum of \$3,000 per grant. Last year, 35 small businesses from across the state received Incentive Fund awards totaling more than \$100,000.

The Matching Fund program provides 100 percent of the federal programs Phase I award, up to a maximum of \$75,000. Last year, 49 small businesses received matching grants totaling nearly \$4.7 million.

The N.C. Board of Science and Technology is housed within the state Commerce Department. Since the inception of the programs in early 2006, the board has issued more than 160 grants to North Carolina small businesses, totaling more than \$10 million.

More information about the programs, application instructions, and supporting materials are posted on the board’s Website at [www.ncscitech.com](http://www.ncscitech.com).

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